

February 2021

Dear friends,

What a busy and blessed time we have had!

First of all, I would like to thank you all very much for the wonderful help you gave us in December. We were able to pay *all* salaries and the extra fourteenth month. That was a huge relief for all of us, because if we had not been able to meet our obligations on time, we would have had to pay everyone double. That's the fine the Bolivian government imposes.

And then a good number of visitors came during Christmas time, to bring gifts for the children. Every day someone came, or a group, and often even two in one day. They brought all kinds of presents for the children, but they also had practical ideas and donated sugar, flour, rice, vegetables, tomatoes, etc. to the children's home. What a joy for everyone. Not only did they bring gifts, but they also played games, sports, and quizzes with the children, who all loved it. The kids just couldn't get enough of it. It was a lot of work for the director and his wife to organize all these visits, and it was also a disorderly time for the kitchen, but we were all very grateful for so many people showing interest. We've never experienced this to this degree, and it continued until about mid-January. It seems Misión Timoteo has become quite famous. Praise the Lord. All visitors were full of praise for the children's home. One was even more enthusiastic than the other about the layout of the site, the abundance of greenery, the really well-behaved children. (Which did elicit the comment from one of the aunts, "I wish they were always like that!") The only one misbehaving was my dog. At one point she escaped my attention and managed to grab a sausage roll from an aunt's hand and enjoy it with her brother from a reasonable distance. The children laughed aloud, but after that she was kept on a leash until all the festivities were over.

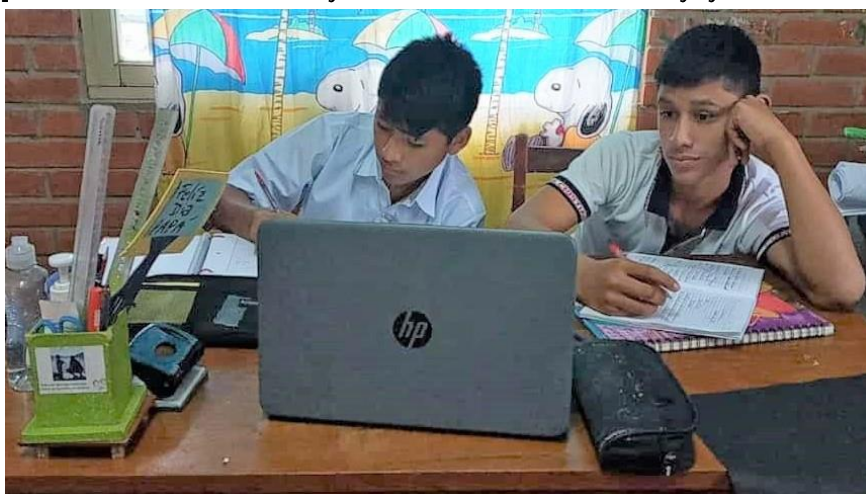


And how did it go with the Covid-19? Very well! Not a trace of it here so far. During all the festivities, the children, aunts and visitors wore facemasks of course. The visitors were disinfected at the entrance with everything they brought. But that did not spoil the fun, everyone fully understood. It has been a really good time for which we cannot be thankful enough.



And we have more reasons for gratitude. Jose Miguel, the director, sowed corn in January together with the bigger boys. They loved it, especially when they saw something rising after a few days. Full of enthusiasm, another planting was sown and two weeks later even more. The pictures show the continued growth. I also keep track of this, because honestly... it is the first time in all these years that this has happened. Once before, tia Martha has tried to plant yuca, but unfortunately this turned out to be a failure. That is why it is quite exciting and we are curious how this maize project will develop further.

After December, the two oldest boys went back to help on the farm for a month, where they were more than welcome. But despite that, they were very happy to return home to Redil in early February. Slowly but surely, they are starting to realize that working for a living is a little less easy than they thought! So far, they have been doing their chores here with more pleasure and better than before. Even the school work now seems to be seriously addressed by them. Yes, the schools have started again. A limited number of children are allowed to come to some schools, but we prefer to let them have their lessons via online lessons. The safety of the children is paramount. Unfortunately, not all schools are ready yet, but some subjects are already taught. And oh, how grateful they are for the computers! It also gives them the feeling of "belonging". And that is of course only positive for their self-confidence.



During the school holidays, the staff took days off, one by one. That is something we have always to plan well. Fortunately, we now had two "help aunts" at our disposal, both of whom are doing very well. The new aunts give some extra work for our psychologist Carmen, because they need to be trained and guided. But she always enjoys working and not only in her own field. Because of the viruses, no one could come to help the children work with the computers. But don't worry; Carmen just took on that work without question. She is really worth gold! During the quarantine she also looked for a solution to coming to work. She "just" slept here for two weeks and then went home for a week.

Padrinos plan: Sponsor a unit

In the children's home, we have children who all go to school, need daily food, clothing and medical care. These are very vulnerable children and we want to offer them a home. We are looking for people who sponsor a unit. In each unit up to 10 children live with parents (or two "aunts") that take care of them. In this way, we simulate as well as possible a family situation and we can give these children new opportunities to develop themselves.

The sponsorship amount is USD 28,- per month.

Will you join us? Thank you in advance. Are you considering becoming a sponsor?

Please, contact Miranda (see colophon)



It seems that the nursery cannot open for the time being. Sad for the people who use it because of their jobs, and now we have to find another solution. But the government will not allow it, and it also seems very risky. We can apply all measures here, but what happens in the families at home? It is therefore better to wait until the situation has stabilized, however annoying this may be for various people. Mothers in particular are annoyed by this. But on the other hand, they also do not want to have sick children at home.

Our 25th anniversary in April is getting very close and we still don't know if people can come from abroad to celebrate with us. But whatever the situation will be, we want to let it go and really make a party for everyone. Both for the children and for everyone who is involved with Misión Timoteo and who has supported us in various ways for so long. Above all, we want to give God credit for this, for more than ever we realize that we are in His hand and that it is ultimately His work. A work that has blessed many people and children over the years. I sincerely hope that people from the Netherlands and the USA can come and especially those who have been there from the first moment. This of course also applies to the Bolivians. Unfortunately, we had to say goodbye to our lawyer, Luis Jaime Cruz, one of the first board members, who took care of the papers at that time. He has been **taken** home by "his highest Boss" and can enjoy an eternity without worries together with Dick. Yes, Dick is also missed. Not only by me, but also by many friends and employees, both here and in the Netherlands and in the USA, especially by his daughters and grandchildren. But he would like the party to continue.

Dear friends, I hope to have caught up with you again. Many thanks fellow combatants, for your compassion, and gifts, and maybe there are still people who want to come here on April 20. If so, you are very welcome!

God bless you. my best regards and see you soon.

Therèse.



From the board:

It all started with the vision of two people and a bare area in Bolivia. Now there is a place where children receive a loving upbringing and care and where many lives have already been positively transformed. None of this would have been possible without the support of people like you. We are happy that the work is still going on after all these years, and we would also like Misión Timoteo to be a safe place for children in the future. Of course, an anniversary also includes a gift. As a board and volunteers, we want to organize a "25" anniversary campaign, and ask for your cooperation. The idea is to do something with the number 25 to raise money for Misión Timoteo. That could be anything (surprise us!),



Another idea is: organize a dinner. This can be completely corona-proof and is fun too. Are you in? It works like this:

Organize a cozy, small-scale dinner at your home, for which the guests pay a certain amount per person. Transfer the proceeds to Misión Timoteo, Of course you can organize as many dinners as you want, with constantly changing visitors. We would like to receive photos and stories of such dinners, so that we can place them in the next newsletter. Mail your photos and experiences to: misiontimoteo@gmail.com Thank you in advance!

Stable flow of donations

You don't like organizing a dinner? Don't worry.....you can of course also "just" donate money. We would be very happy if people donate annually, quarterly or monthly, so that we get a more stable flow of donations to support the children in Bolivia. At the moment we actually don't have that, and every month it's uncertain if enough donations come in to keep the Misión running. Together we can make a difference. Thank you in advance!



Visit and like our [Facebook page](#).



Colophon

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If you want to financially support
Therese for her personal livelihood,
you can transfer a donation to her
private account number:
NL 96 RABO 0351185178.
Thank you in advance

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